

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please AMEND claims 1, 10, and 13, as follows.

1. (Currently Amended) An image processing apparatus comprising:  
a plurality of rendering sections that respectively generate color component images on the basis of data common to the respective color components, wherein each rendering section executes a rendering including a process which, in accordance with rendering logic, carries out an operation of writing overwrites foreground data on generated in accordance with the common data in destination data indicated by the common data so as to generate one of the color component images as a red, green, or blue color component image, wherein the foreground data, destination data, and rendering logic are indicated by the common data, and wherein said plurality of rendering sections generate data in a pixel unit from the common data which includes at least one rendering object and a rendering position of the rendering object; and

a converter that converts the generated color component images into color component images for printing in synchronism with operation of a printer engine.

2. (Previously Presented) The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein each of said plurality of rendering sections comprises a memory having a memory capacity large enough to generate at least a two-band color component image obtained by dividing a page into bands.

3. (Previously Presented) The apparatus according to claim 2, wherein said memory is divided into areas in units of bands, and the divided areas are alternately used for the image rendering operation and outputting of an image to said converter.

4. (Previously Presented) The apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising a rendering controller that respectively supplies the common data to each of said plurality of rendering sections at substantially the same time and to control said plurality of rendering sections to simultaneously generate additive color mixture images.

5. (Previously Presented) The apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising an output section that outputs the color component images for printing to the printer engine in accordance with the operation of the printer engine.

6. (Previously Presented) The apparatus according to claim 5, wherein said output section comprises a delay section that compensates timing differences in forming the respective color component images in the printer engine.

7. (Original) The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the data common to the respective color components is made up of a display list and print element data.

8. (Original) The apparatus according to claim 7, wherein the display list is a list of print elements obtained by dividing a print image and arranged in an order of occurrence.

9. (Original) The apparatus according to claim 7, wherein the print element data is image data representing one of a character, symbol, graphic pattern, color data, and image data.

10. (Currently Amended) An image processing method comprising the steps of:

generating color component images by operating a plurality of rendering sections, respectively, on the basis of data common to the respective color components, wherein each rendering section executes a rendering including a process which, in accordance with rendering logic, carries out an operation of writing overwrites foreground data on generated in accordance with the common data in destination data indicated by the common data so as to generate one of the color component images as a red, green, or blue color component image, wherein the foreground data, destination data, and rendering logic are indicated by the common data, and wherein the plurality of rendering sections generate data in a pixel unit from the common data which includes at least one rendering object and a rendering position of the rendering object; and

converting the generated color component images into color component images for printing in synchronism with operation of a printer engine.

11. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 10, further comprising the step of generating a color component image in units of bands by using a memory having a memory capacity enough to generate at least a two-band image.

12. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 11, further comprising the step of dividing the memory into areas in units of bands, and alternately using the divided areas for image rendering in said generating step and outputting of an image for conversion in said converting step.

13. (Currently Amended) A computer program product storing a computer-readable medium comprising program code for an image processing method, said method comprising the steps of:

generating color component images by operating a plurality of rendering sections, respectively, on the basis of data common to the respective color components, wherein each rendering section executes a rendering including a process which, in accordance with rendering logic, carries out an operation of writing overwrites foreground data on generated in accordance with the common data in destination data indicated by the common data so as to generate one of the color component images as a red, green, or blue color component image, wherein the foreground data, destination data, and rendering logic are indicated by the common data, and wherein the plurality of rendering sections generate data in a pixel unit from the common data which includes at least one rendering object and a rendering position of the rendering object; and

converting the generated color component images into color component images for printing in synchronism with operation of a printer engine.